

Message

From: Jones, Russell [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4795FDC630C34BE4AED0C6416A20D606-RUSSELL JONES]
Sent: 4/20/2018 5:04:24 PM
To: Yarger, Ryne [Yarger.Ryne@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants
Attachments: HA_JV Comments.Guidance for Plant Biostimulant Label Claims_Update_01 22 2017.doc; HA Comments Plant Regulator.Biostimulant Guidance_jca_edits_10-31-201_11 06.docx; Plant Biostimulant Guidance- INTERNAL EPA REVIEW ONLY- Need Comments by 4/5/10; Part 2- Plant Biostimulants Guidance Update - Older version

No. Helene's comments were on that earlier version of the Guidance. I have attached a pdf of that with my handwritten notes of what you and I addressed that one day, since they were too numerous to list. There is an earlier version attached with Joseph Adamson comments. I have also attached both of Yvette's emails to the Regions requesting formal response. I just summarized my understanding of OECA comments and how I addressed them with more explanatory text in the footnotes.

From: Yarger, Ryne
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 12:13 PM
To: Jones, Russell <Jones.Russell@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Did the file you sent include OECA comments in the document, or did you scrub it of their comments? You could just forward Yvette's email she sent if that easier.

Sorry for the 1000 questions today. I finally got a little daylight and wanted to make a little progress on this from my end.

From: Jones, Russell
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 12:00 PM
To: Yarger, Ryne <Yarger.Ryne@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Here they are. His comments echoed Helene's and were those that you and I went over that one day when we removing or changing the "offending" statements.

From: Yarger, Ryne
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 11:56 AM
To: Jones, Russell <Jones.Russell@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Can you forward R7's emails to me, please? That might be the one response I may have issues w/ when talking w/ Helene, so I'd need to see his comments to figure out how to approach the regions comments w/ her.

Thanks,
Ryne

From: Jones, Russell
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 11:47 AM

To: Yarger, Ryne <Yarger.Ryne@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Basically, the R7 responder initially said in his first email that he had no additional comments, but in a subsequent email, evidently he had had contact with Helene and then echoed the same criticisms that Helen had made. In the interests of reducing redundancy, I just said "R7 agrees with OECA's comments."

From: Yarger, Ryne
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 11:22 AM
To: Jones, Russell <Jones.Russell@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Thanks, I think I can work with this initially. I may need the emails, but unless you already have them collated, don't worry too much about that right now.

What does it mean when it say R7 agrees with OECA's comments? Were there significant concerns, and how did you address those?

Thanks,
Ryne

From: Jones, Russell
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 11:13 AM
To: Yarger, Ryne <Yarger.Ryne@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Ryne:

I made this response chart for Bob earlier in the week, as he had asked a similar question about summarizing the responses.

What do you think? Does it need more? Add the original emails?

Russ

From: Yarger, Ryne
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Jones, Russell <Jones.Russell@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

OGC provides the delegation authority – it's determined outside of our office. There is a delegations manual w/ the full list of delegations, but I'm not 100% sure where this falls. Normally, guidance FRNs can be signed by Rick, but since this is significant, I'm not sure if that's the case or whether it has to be signed by the DAA or higher. I will reach out to Alyssa to help with that.

While I'd send the FRN to her for assistance w/ the delegation, I'd also like to provide the full FAR package to the group (OGC, OP, OECA, ORD) before FAR. This is important for a couple of reasons, primarily because we have to work with them frequently, and we don't want to burn that bridge in the future by just moving forward without them seeing it. Plus, with Ed Messina as our acting DOD, I believe he was Helene's Director in OECA, so there may be some sensitivity there. I will do this once we have things fully put together.

I haven't had a chance to reach out to OECA on this yet, but I will do what I can do to try to convince them it's not worth holding up. I think if you can put together a pdf or something w/ the Regions' emails that shows we've taken that step and there were no major concerns, that may help me leverage their concurrence to move forward and make FAR easy.

Thanks,
Ryne

From: Jones, Russell
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:36 AM
To: Yarger, Ryne <Yarger.Ryne@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Ryne:

Sorry for my lack of clarity. I was asking whether you will be sending it to OGC, or is it the responsibility of BPPD?

I will ask Bob about the signing authority.

Russ

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From: Yarger, Ryne
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:34 AM
To: Jones, Russell <Jones.Russell@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

It will have to be run past OGC for sure. One thing I'm unsure of still is the signing authority for this FRN, so Alyssa would be helpful as well in that respect. I don't think there would be any issues w/ the FRN since it's pretty limited in text.

I'm also finishing up a draft of the Action Memo right now and will be sending it to you soon for some additional info. That too will also need to be run by OGC, but it's an internal document.

Ryne

From: Jones, Russell
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:26 AM
To: Yarger, Ryne <Yarger.Ryne@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Ryne:

Thanks. I will give it a review. Will you be running this by OGC, or is that something we do in BPPD. Bob M will ask.

Russ

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From: Yarger, Ryne
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 8:42 AM
To: Jones, Russell <Jones.Russell@epa.gov>
Subject: Updated FRN document for Biostimulants

Hi Russ,

Attached is an updated FRN that'll be used for the guidance. Please take a look and let me know if you have any edits. I have a few other docs in the work I'll send your way soon.

Also, we're going to have to develop a comm strategy for this. I don't think it will need to be huge, but if you can provide a basic list of organizations that we may want to contact when this is published in the FRN, please send them my way. This can be done in a general sense (BPIA, etc, etc), or if you have a specific contact in BPIA for example, include that name as well.

I think for comms, all we'd really need is an OPP Update, announcement on webpage, and outreach to those particular organizations. If you can provide the list, I'll touch base with communications next week to put something together.

Thanks,
Ryne